

REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated December 13, 2005. Claims 1-12 were pending in the application. In the Office Action, claims 1-12 were rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1 was amended and claim 11 was cancelled. Claims 1-10 and 12 thus remain for consideration.

Applicant submits that claims 1-10 and 12 are in condition for allowance and requests withdrawal of the rejections in light of the following remarks.

§ 103 Rejections

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howard (USPN 3,277,646).

Claims 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Howard (USPN 3,277,646), as applied to claim 8, in further view of GB Patent to Yeung (GB Patent No. 2,194,081).

Applicant submits that independent claims 1 is patentable over Howard and Yeung -- either taken alone or in combination.

Applicant's invention as recited in the independent claim 1 is directed towards a watch mechanism. For example, independent claim 1 specifies that the watch mechanism comprises a plurality of movements and a casing, the casing having a top side, a bottom side and side edges. Claim 1 further specifies that (1) the top side includes a scratch resistant surface that allows for a clear view of the movements, (2) the rear side includes a cross-sectional curve allowing for comfortable placement of the watch mechanism on a user, and (3) the side edges having opposing curves that coincide with the cross-sectional curve. Claim 1 also specifies that each movement is placed at an angle with respect to the

top side of the casing, the angle mimicking the curves of the side edges. Supporting disclosure for Applicant's watch mechanism can be found throughout the specification. (see, e.g., Page 6, line 26 to page 7, line 10; and page 9, lines 30-33).

Howard and Yeung do not disclose either (A) a casing having (1) the top side includes a scratch resistant surface that allows for a clear view of the movements, (2) the rear side including a cross-sectional curve allowing for comfortable placement of the watch mechanism on a user, and (3) the side edges having opposing curves that coincide with the cross-sectional curve, or (B) each movement is placed at an angle with respect to the top side of the casing, the angle mimicking the curves of the side edges.

Howard discloses a watch casing having a flat back closure plate. This means the back closure plate of Howard cannot and does not have a cross-sectional curve. Accordingly, since Howard lacks a cross-sectional curve, Howard cannot have side edges that have opposing curves that coincide with a cross-sectional curve. And further, since Howard does not have side edges having opposing curves, Howard cannot have movements placed at an angle that mimics the curves of the side edges.

Yeung was relied on by Examiner to overcome certain deficiencies of Howard. Yeung, however, does not disclose either (A) a casing having (1) the top side includes a scratch resistant surface that allows for a clear view of the movements, (2) the rear side including a cross-sectional curve allowing for comfortable placement of the watch mechanism on a user, and (3) the side edges having opposing curves that coincide with the cross-sectional curve, or (B) each movement is placed at an angle with respect to the top side of the casing, the angle mimicking the curves of the side edges.

Since Howard and Yeung do not disclose either (A) a casing having (1) the top side includes a scratch resistant surface that allows for a clear view of the movements, (2) the rear side including a cross-sectional curve allowing for comfortable placement of the watch mechanism on a user, and (3) the side edges having opposing curves that coincide with the cross-sectional curve, or (B) each movement is placed at an angle with respect to the top side of the casing, the angle mimicking the curves of the side edges, Applicant believes that independent claim 1 is patentable over Howard and Yeung -- either taken alone or in combination -- on at least this basis.

Claims 2-10 and 12 depend on claim 1. Since claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Howard and Yeung, claims 2-10 and 12 are believed to be patentable over Howard and Yeung on the basis of their dependency on claim 1.

CONCLUSION

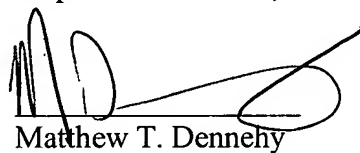
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 06-0515.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen E. Feldman, P.C.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew T. Dennehy', is written over a horizontal line.

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